## STATE SENATOR - RAYMOND E. BASHAM - 8TH DISTRICT

## **Basham Press Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 1, 2003

## SEN. BASHAM NOTIFIES CONSUMERS OF UPCOMING REGISTRY FOR FEDERAL "DO NOT CALL" LIST

(Lansing)- State Senator Ray Basham (D-Taylor) notified consumers today that they can sign up to have their names added to the new federal "do not call" registry. Consumers who chose to have their name added to the federal registry can avoid receiving most telemarketing phone calls.

"I'm pleased that Congress has finally approved the creation of a federal 'do not call' registry," said Sen. Basham. "For the first time, consumers nationwide will be allowed to decide for themselves if they want to be bothered at home with telemarketing solicitations."

Beginning in July, consumers can register, free of charge, either online or by telephone to have their names placed on a national "do not call" registry. The FCC is scheduled to announce the toll free number and web site in June.

Sen. Basham encouraged his constituents to register online, rather than by phone, to prevent delays. The initial sign-up by phone will be phased in by region due to the expected high volume of calls while online registration will be available immediately in July.

Once registered, consumer's names will remain on the registry for five years after which time they will need to renew their registration. The registration will take effect in September of 2003, at which time telemarketers will be required to "scrub" their lists of names on the registry every 90 days. Violators will be subject to an \$11,000 per violation fine.